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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND CHIEF SANITARY
INSPECTOR TO THE WEST PENNINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

.....
FOR THE YEAR 1946.
.....

To which is Appended the
Annual Report of the Port Medical Officer of Health to the Penseance
(Hayle Division) Port Sanitary Authority.

WEST PENWITH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department,
38, Chapel Street,
PENZANCE.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of
Health to the West Penwith Rural District
Council for the year, 1946.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the Rural District of West Penwith for the year 1946, together with the vital statistics in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health's Circular 13/47.

It will be appreciated that it is impossible for a new-comer to offer any observations on the service applicable to this area, but it is fitting to pay tribute to the excellent work carried out by my predecessor, Dr. Hadfield for so many years, in so many aspects of public health.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

W.K. DUNSCOMBE.

Medical Officer of Health.

A. VITAL STATISTICS.

Population. Registrar General's estimate mid year 1946. 17140.

Number of inhabited houses approximately 5609.

Number of Civil Parishes in the district. 17.

Area of district. 61,088 acres.

Rateable Value. £61,734.

Sum represented by Penny Rate. £263.

<u>Live births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	162	133	
Illegitimate.	11	14	320

Live birth rate per 1000 estimated population. 18.5

<u>Still births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
	2	--	2

Rate per 1000 total births. 6.2

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
	126	130	256

Death rate per 1000 estimated population. 14.9

<u>Infant deaths.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	8	4	
Illegitimate.	2	1	15

Rate per 1000 live births (leg.) 37.5

Rate per 1000 live births (illeg.) 120.0

Maternal Deaths. 1.

Rate per 1000 total births. 3.1

Causes of death.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Scarlet Fever.	1		
Diphtheria.		1	
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	3	1	
Other forms of tuberculosis.	2		
Influenza.	2	3	
Cancer of various organs.	19	20	
Diabetes.	3	2	
Intracranial Vascular lesions.	11	18	
Heart disease.	34	37	
Other diseases of circulatory system.	4	4	
Bronchitis.	2	1	
Pneumonia.	3	2	
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum.	3	1	
Other respiratory diseases.	1	1	
Appendicitis.	2	1	
Other digestive diseases.	2	5	
Nephritis.	7	6	
Puerperal and post abort. sepsis.		1	
Premature births.	2	2	
Congenital malformations, birth injuries etc.	3	1	
suicide	1	1	
Other violent causes.	8	4	
All other causes.	13	18	256

B. STATE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT IN 1946.

Medical Officer of Health.	Dr. P.H. Hadfield.
Chief Sanitary Inspector.	J.H.M. Crane.
Sanitary Inspector.	J.W. Hitchens.
Water Assistant.	J.H. Nicholas.
Clerk.	Miss E. Oatey (part time).
Public Analyst.	Dr. R. Pendrill Charles.

C. GENERAL SANITARY CONDITIONS.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.
Diphtheria.	5
Scarlet Fever.	11
Whooping Cough.	24
Erysipelas.	1
Measles.	1
Pneumonia.	3
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	1
Chicken Pox.	2

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age periods.	Respir.	Non respir.	deaths. respir.	Non respir.
1.				
5.		1		
15.		1		
25.	5	1	2	
35.	4			
45.	1			
55.	3			
65. and over.	1		1	
Not known.	1		1	
Total.	15	3	4	

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION FIGURES.

No. of cases immunised during the year. 183.
Under 5. 122.
Over 5. 61.

Refresher doses. 199.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The following table gives the position in each parish. It will be understood however, that some parishes have more than one hamlet and therefore there may be more than one type of supply to each parish. The following letters indicate the type of supply:-

Main Supply. M Stand. pipe S Well or spring. W rainwater tanks. T

Name or parish.	Pop. 1939.	A.V. 1946.	Type of Public Supply.	Un- Treated	Samples Taken. Chlor. Chlor. & Filtered.	Results.
Sennen.	628	£2671	M.S.P.	5		Unsat. (b)
St. Lavan.	563	£1891	L.T.			
St. Buryan.	1104	£2605	S	2		Sat.
Sandreed.	595	£1764	W.F.M.			(c)
Towednack.	278	£607	W.			
Zennor.	255	£694	W.			
Madron.	1301	£3922	S.			
Ludgvan.	2403	£5907	W.S.	3		Sat. (d)
Paul.	252	£712	W.			
Marazion.	1211	£4627	M.		3	Sat.
St. Michael's Mt.	46	£355	M.			
Grinear-Gwithian.	1810	£3960	W.	2		Sat. (e)
St. Hilary.	724	£1508	W.T.			
St. Erth.	1004	£2351	W.F.			(c)
Perranuthnoe.	934	£2701	W.F.	2		Sat.
Hayle.	4437	£25459	M.		2	2 Sat.

1. (a) Standard of fitness of untreated water supplies within the area has not been found to be satisfactory with the exceptions of Trythall Veian Supply to Madron and Ludgvan Churchtown Spring Supply.

(b) Council Maisonettes at Sennen Cove (former R.A.F. Camp) supply taken over but the quality of the water found to be unsatisfactory. It would appear that R.A.F. undertook the chlorination of this supply by the addition of water sterilizing powder but without the personnel resources this cannot now be carried out. Chlorination of supply is being arranged.

(c) Drift village has been connected to main supply from Penzance of filtered and chlorinated water taken by meter.

(d) Ludgvan Churchtown provided with standpipe supply from a spring during the year.

(e) St. Erth -- The Scheme prepared in 1945 for supplying the village with treated water from Mellanear has not yet materialized.

(f) Grinear -- Gwithian. A Scheme prepared in 1945 for watering this area from Camborne Water Co. has not yet come into being.

(g) Outlying districts if dependent only on rain water tanks and springs continue to have difficulty during the summer, and without a major scheme providing a piped treated water throughout the district this trouble will continue.

2. Where piped main supplies show consistent low Ph reading, the use of lead has been restricted.

3. Where as the result of bacteriological or chemical analysis, water supplies show evidence of contamination not immediately remediable at reasonable expense, consumers have been warned either by notices, or where small numbers of people affected, by individual letters to boil the water before consumption.

4. Proportions of dwelling houses supplied throughout the district.

- (a) Main supply direct to house. 35.1%
- (b) By means of public or private standpipes 18.8%
- (c) By means of public or private wells, springs, rainwater tanks 46.1%

11. SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Sewage disposal throughout the district is carried out either by (1) public sewers with piped outfall direct to sea or purification works, (2) individual purification plants e.g. septic tanks, (3) entrenching where bucket or Elsan systems are in use.

Sennen Cove.

This sewer caters for a small number of dwellings at one end of the cove but the remainder of houses etc. in this cove have no facilities for entrenching and buckets are emptied on the foreshore giving rise to nuisances.

In general, the systems of sewerage of the district are unsatisfactory, and modifications and introductions of new schemes for existing layouts and for areas as yet unsewered will be essential on the execution of main water supplies.

111. REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.

Removal of refuse is carried out by the Local Authority. With the exception of very isolated homes, collection is maintained throughout the district by two vehicles. For this purpose, the area is divided, the vehicle in the western area utilizing the services of the controlled tip at Penzance, and the eastern portion being catered for on the Council's tip at Gwithian Towns.

Rat disinfection has been carried out on the Council's tip under the Infestation Order 1943 under supervision of the Ministry of Food with good results.

D. CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Housing Development.

The Council completed and let two new houses during the year and have acquired land for 44 houses on which 10 houses have been started.

Thirteen new houses have been completed by private enterprise and twelve houses started and in course of erection.

Housing.

1. Total number of houses inspected for defects under the Housing Acts. 1,000.
2. No. of houses scheduled under Section 9, Housing Act, 1936. 183.
3. Number of houses scheduled under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936. 116.
4. Number of defects by Informal Notices. 15.
5. Number of defects by Statutory Notices. 111.
6. Number of overcrowding reported during the year. 9.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops, etc.

- Inspections of dairies and cowsheds. 80.
Cowsheds passed for Accredited or A.M. producing herds. 2.
Notices served under Milk and Dairies Order 1926, 12.
Notices complied with, 12.
No. of cowsheds not complying with provisions of Milk and Dairies Order 1926. 11.


Inspection of meat and other food.

The system whereby all animals for human consumption in this area are slaughtered and inspected in the Borough of Penzance is still operative.

Food rejected as unsound, 621 lbs.

Miscellaneous.

- 102 complaints received and attended to.
- 34 inspections of houses under Public Health Acts.
- 11 inspections and visits re. infectious diseases.
- 11 houses disinfected.
- 2 visits to infested premises.
- 2 premises disinfested.
- 17 W.C.'s repaired or renewed.
- 52 inspections of drains.
- 13 Drains found defective.
- 50 inspections of drainage work in progress.
- 40 drains repaired or renewed.
- 34 drains tested with water.
- 7 inspections re. removal of offensive deposits.
- 10 inspections of streams and watercourses.
- 58 inspections of food stores and shops.
- 59 General inspections of refuse piles.
- 52 inspections of camp sites.
- 67 inspections of public conveniences.
- 27 inspections of backhouses.



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PERMANCE (MARINE DIVISION) PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

ANNUAL REPORT OF PORT HEALTH MEDICAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1946.

- (1) Source of supply for (a) Port, (b) shipping. FROM COUNCIL'S LAIRS.
- (2) Hydrants and hosepipes, LIES ON QUAY.
What precautions are taken against contamination? COVERED.
- (3) Number of water boats and their sanitary condition. NIL.

PORT HEALTH REGULATIONS, 1933 and 1945.

- (1) Arrangements for dealing with Declaration of Health. CERTIFICATES.
PROCLAIMERS AND PREVENTION OFFICERS.
- (2) Boarding of vessels on arrival. NONE.
- (3) Notification to the Authority of inward vessels requiring special attention (wireless messages, land signal stations, information from pilots, Customs Officers, etc.)
- (4) Mooring stations designated under Article 10, WITHIN THE DOCK.
- (5) Particulars of any standing exemptions from the provisions of Article 14.
- (6) Experience of working of Article 16.
- (7) What, if any, arrangements have been made for:-
 - (a) Premises and waiting rooms for medical examination. NONE.
 - (b) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons and clothing and other articles. BY PORT HEALTH INSPECTOR AT PERMANCE BOROUGH.
 - (c) Premises for the temporary accommodation of persons for whom such accommodation is required for the purposes of the Regulations. NONE.
 - (d) Hospital accommodation available for Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Small Pox and other infectious diseases. COUNTY HOSPITAL.
 - (e) Ambulance transport. ST. JOHN'S BRIGADE.
 - (f) Supervision of contacts. PORT HEALTH MEDICAL OFFICER.
- (8) Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examinations of rats for plague. COUNTY PATHOLOGIST.
- (9) Arrangements for other bacteriological or pathological examinations.
COUNTY PATHOLOGIST.
- (10) Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in patient treatment. Also as to the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen. AT CLINIC AT WEST CORNWALL HOSPITAL, ADVERTISED IN POSTERS IN DOCKS AND UNITS.
- (11) Arrangements for the interment of dead. MORTUARY.
- (12) Other matters, if any, requiring or receiving attention. NONE.

Signed.....

Port Health Medical Officer.

SHIPPING DEPARTING PORT OF NEW YORK DURING YEAR ENDING DECEMBER, 1945.

Number.	Registered Tonnage.	No inspected.		No. reported defective.	No. defects remedied.	No. of vessels reported as having had infectious diseases on board during the voyage.
		By U. S. H.	By San. Insp.			
Foreign. Steamers. 1.	233					
Motor. Sailing. Fishing.			1	None.		None.
Total Foreign 1.	233		1			
Coastwise. Steamers 152 Motor 295 Sailing - Fishing. 2	3077, 4,204.9	1 5 1	39 10			
Total Coastwise 447	7296.3	5	49			
Total Foreign and Coastwise 446	7321.1	5	49	None.		None.